

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MTN GE 06277 041523Z

53

ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

FEAE-00 OMB-01 AF-08 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /138 W

----- 001664

P R 040915Z AUG 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1822

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 6277

ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: TRADE POLICY TEAM VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA - ARGENTINA

REF: STATE 185787

1. US MTN DEL (KNEPPER) DISCUSSED PROPOSED VISIT OF AMBASSADOR YEUTTER TO BUENOS AIRES WITH ARGENTINE MTN DEL (RAMONDI). RAMONDI BELIEVED IT WAS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR CONSULTATIONS TO BE HELD IN BUENOS AIRES AT THIS POINT AS THERE WERE A NUMBER OF NEW OFFICIALS DEALING WITH THESE MATTERS IN GOA.

2. RAMONDI BELIEVED THAT FOLLOWING THREE TOPICS WOULD BE UPPERMOST IN MINDS OF GOA OFFICIALS:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MTN GE 06277 041523Z

(A) MEAT - RAMONDI EMPHASIZED GOA INTEREST IN MODIFI-

CATION OF US HEALTH AND SANITARY REQUIREMENT ON BOTH COOKED AND UNCOOKED BEEF TO THE US WOULD BE REITERATED STRONGLY.

(B) GRAINS - RAMONDI NOTED THAT ARGENTINA CONTINUED TO SUPPORT AN INTERNATIONAL GRAINS AGREEMENT, HOPEFULLY ONE THAT WOULD INCLUDE PRICE PROVISIONS.

(C) TARIFFS - RAMONDI STATED GOA WAS PREPARING AN ANSWER TO A NOTE RECEIVED FROM THE US EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES CONCERNING THE ARGENTINIAN POSITION IN THE TARIFFS GROUP. RAMONDI NOTED THAT ARGENTINA BELIEVED THAT GSP COULD BE USEFUL, AND WAS SEEKING MEANS TO AVOID GSP EROSION IN ANY TARIFF FORMULA. BASIC ARGENTINIAN POSITION WOULD BE TO SEEK EXCEPTIONS FROM TARIFF FORMULA ON ANY PRODUCT RECEIVING GSP TREATMENT OF INTEREST TO ARGENTINA, WHILE SEEKING DEEPER THAN FORMULA CUTS ON PRODUCTS NOT INCLUDED IN GSP FOR SIMILAR PRODUCTS. US MTN DEL NOTED US DID NOT ACCEPT PRINCIPLE OF COMPENSATION FOR GSP EROSION, AND THE DIFFICULTIES THAT US HAD WITH NON-MFN TRADE LIBERALIZING S&D MEASURES IN TARIFFS GROUP.

3. OTHER TOPICS THAT ROMONDI THUGHT WOULD BE OF INTEREST WERE AS FOLLOWS:

(2) FRAMEWORK REFORM - RAMONDI INDICATED SUPPORT FOR BRAZILIAN FRAMEWORK REFORM GROUP, NOTING GOA BELIEVED IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO BEGIN WORK OF GROUP IN FALL IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETION OF MTN BY 1977. RAMONDI EMPHASIZED THAT AIM WAS NOT TO TOTALLY REWRITE THE GATT. HE BELIEVED THERE SHOULD BE AGREEMENT ON THESE TOPICS THAT COULD BE SERIOUSLY NEGOTIATED WITHIN THE GIVEN TIME FRAME, NOTING THAT THE FOUR BRAZILIAN TOPICS FOR PRIORITY ATTENTION APPEARED SATISFACTORY. RAMONDI EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT ARGENTINA DID NOT BELIEVE THAT TNC SHOULD LIMIT OR RESTRICT ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP ONCE FORMED, BUT THAT THIS SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE GROUP ITSELF TO DECIDE. RAMONDI NOTED THAT HE BELIEVED A KEY ISSUE WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MTN GE 06277 041523Z

THE QUESTION OF ARTICLE I.

(B) TROPICAL PRODUCTS - RAMONDI THOUGHT DISCUSSION OF TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL, ALTHOUGH NOTING ARGENTINA'S LIMITED INTEREST IN US TP OFFER. (ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR MARTINEZ IS CHAIRMAN OF TP GROUP.) HE ALSO REPEATED ARGENTINIAN AND LDC STANDARD POSITION ON "CONTRIBUTIONS" AT TEND OF

NEGOTIATIONS.

(C) SAFEGUARDS - ARGENTINA WANTED A SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM MUCH BROADER THAN JUST ARTICLE XIX, WHICH WOULD COVER MEASURES WHICH WERE TAKEN OUTSIDE THE GATT FRAMEWORK AS WELL.

(D) SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES - RAMONDI EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS THAT US DID NOT HAVE AN INJURY PROVISION FOR COUNTERVAILING DUTY CASES EXCEPT WHEN MERCHANDISE IS FREE OF DUTY.

(E) DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR LDCS - RAMONDI MENTIONED S&D TREATMENT IN A SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM AND SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES CODE WOULD BE FEASIBLE AND APPROPRIATE. HE NOTED ARGENTINA CAN ACCEPT THE CONCEPT THAT THE POOREST COUNTRIES RECEIVE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS, BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF MORE DEVELOPED LDCS.

(F) STANDARDS CODE - RAMONDI MENTIONED INTEREST OF ARGENTINA IN BEING INFORMED AND PERMITTED TO MAKE INPUTS INTO DEVELOPMENT OF NEW STANDARDS, NOTING PROBLEM FOR ARGENTINA AND OTHERS WITH EC STANDARDS ON APPLES AND PEARS.

(G) AGRICULTURE - RAMONDI NOTED ARGENTINA WAS PREPARING NOTIFICATION ON A NUMBER OF PRODUCTS ON WHICH IT WAS INTERESTED TO A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING PHE US, UNDER THE PROCEDURES FOR OTHER PRODUCTS IN THE AGRICULTURE GROUP.

4. US MTN DEL COMMENTS: (A) CONSULAR FEES AND FORMALITIES, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MTN GE 06277 041523Z

NOT MENTIONED BY RAMONDI, HAS BEEN VERY SENSITIVE TOPIC FOR ARGENTINE MTN DELEGATION. CONSULAR FEES ARE USED BY ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO FINANCE ITS DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE AND TO MAKE ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FEES ARE HELD AT POSTS ABROAD AND NOT REMITTED TO BUENOS AIRES. ARGENTINIANS CLAIM THAT SYSTEM OF CONSULAR FORMALITIES NOT TRADE BARRIER AS CONSULAR CERTIFICATION IS ISSUED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF RECEIPT OF INVOICE. US DEL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS SENSITIVE MATTER FURTHER IN BUENOS AIRES, NOTING THAT ELIMINATION OF CONSULAR FORMALITIES AND FEES WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A CONTRIBUTION TO TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. US HAS PROPOSED PLURILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN NTM SUBGROUP ON CUSTOMS MATTERS IN WHICH

COUNTRIES HAVING AN INTEREST IN REMOVAL OF THESE MEASURES AND THOSE THAT HAVE RECENTLY REMOVED THEM, COULD EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH THOSE COUNTRIES STILL MAINTAINING THEM TO ASCERTAIN RATIONALE FOR THEIR CONTINUATION AND EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF ACHIEVING SAME OBJECTIVE. ARGENTINIAN DEL, HOWEVER, LED THE OPPOSITION TO EVEN THIS PROPOSAL FOR AN INFORMATION EXCHANGE. AMERICAN EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS TO NATURE OF CONSULAR FEES WITHIN ARGENTINE FISCAL AND TRADE STRUCTURE AND PERHAPS ADVISE ON REASONS FOR EXTREME SENSITIVITY ON THIS ISSUE EXPRESSED BY ARGENTINE DEL MANY TIMES IN THE PAST.

(B) LICENSING - ARGENTINIAN "DECLARATION OF NEED" FOR IMPORTS OPERATES AS A DISCRETIONARY LICENSING SYSTEM. US MAY WISH INQUIRE AS TO GOA'S WILLINGNESS TO ALTER THIS IMPORT RESTRICTIVE SYSTEM, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO SPECIFIC ITEMS. CULBERT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSULTANTS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MTNGE06277
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760300-0532
From: MTN GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760888/aaaaczdy.tel
Line Count: 189
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 185787
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRADE POLICY TEAM VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA - ARGENTINA
TAGS: ETRD, US, AR, XM, MTN
To: STATE BUENOS AIRES
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006